

## West Stanly Sewer Meeting Overview

The second west Stanly sewer meeting was held earlier this week. The meeting focused on the following items:

- 1. Are Locust, Stanfield and Stanly County simply retail customers or partners with Oakboro with respect to treatment plant operations? This policy question will be addressed by Oakboro officials prior to the next meeting on November 13. The results of this decision will likely have an impact on how Locust, Stanfield and Stanly County view the various rate structure options.
- 2. Discussion of various rate structure options Various rate setting options with actual figures were presented for discussion. One of the recommended options focused on using reserved capacity and user volume as critical factors in the rate development. The current rate structure focuses solely on user volume. If reserved capacity were to become a more significant factor in the rate structure then Stanly County's rates would increase. Stanly County is only using roughly 17% of its reserved treatment capacity. County staff has some fundamental concerns with using reserved capacity as part of the rate structure moving forward given the County has already compensated Oakboro for this capacity.

## 60 Day, Get Fit Wellness Initiative

In early 2013, the County will be participating in a new fitness initiative being sponsored by Blue Cross and Blue Shield of North Carolina. The emphasis will be on changing behaviors related to fitness and diet. Fitness was identified as an opportunity/challenge for Stanly County on the recent Health Risk Assessment. As such, this initiative is aligned to the County's health and wellness needs.

Given the County's proactive efforts to register for the program, a total of 50 participants can enroll at no cost. The County's wellness team and health education staff will be actively recruiting participants in hopes of encouraging at least 50 employees to participate. If the County is able to exceed the 50 participant threshold, there will be a nominal \$25 charge per employee.

The challenge will measure fitness progress at three (3) intervals during the spring of 2013. These tests will be discrete and the results will be captured at the aggregate team level.

## Emergency Radio Study - Update

The 911emergency radio study Steering Committee met late last week to discuss the results of the study with the consultants, Mission Critical Partners.

The study provided the County with five (5) different options. These options included the deferment of the system replacement and maintaining the existing system. Other options included the construction of a new VHF, P-25 compliant system, joining the regional radio communications system based in Charlotte (UASI), partnering with Rowan County or joining the State's VIPER system. The UASI, Rowan and VIPER options would include the construction of a 700/800 MHz network.

The consultant stressed the County should focus on operations when determining the most effective radio system. With this said, interoperability within the region (e.g. Cabarrus, Mecklenburg, Union, etc.) is critical to EMS, VFD and law enforcement operations.

As a result, the Steering Committee reached consensus to study the UASI option in more detail. The committee developed additional financial, technical and operational questions and plans to meet with representatives of UASI on November 7. Staff will continue to keep the Board posted as the Steering Committee engages in more discussions and due diligence.

Staff has asked the Steering Committee to finalize its post study options assessment by January 2013 so a presentation can be developed and presented at the Board's annual strategic planning retreat in February 2013.

## **Upcoming Meetings & Events**

**Regular Board Meeting** Monday, November 5

7:00 PM Commons Mtg. Room

Veteran's Day Holiday Monday, November 12

**County Offices Closed** 

**Regular Board Meeting** Monday, November 19

7:00 PM

Commons Mtg. Room

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